

## **MINUTES**

### **MONTANA SENATE 57th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ON HOUSE AMENDMENTS TO SENATE BILL 437**

**Call to Order:** By **CHAIRMAN PETE EKEGREN**, on April 9, 2001 at 1:00 A.M., in Room 335 Capitol.

#### **ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:**

Sen. Pete Ekegren, Chairman (R)  
Rep. John Brueggeman, Vice Chairman (R)  
Rep. Keith Bales (R)  
Sen. Mack Cole (R)  
Rep. Larry Jent (D)  
Sen. Debbie Shea (D)

**Members Excused:** None.

**Members Absent:** None.

**Staff Present:** Lynette Brown, Committee Secretary  
David Niss, Legislative Branch

**Please Note:** These are summary minutes. Testimony and discussion are paraphrased and condensed.

**Committee Business Summary:**

Hearing(s) & Date(s) Posted: SB 437, 4/6/2001  
Executive Action: SB 437

***{Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 0}***

**SEN. PETE EKEGREN** opened the conference committee for SB 437.

**SEN. MACK COLE, sponsor,** asked **REP. LARRY JENT** to explain changes he wanted in the bill. **REP. JENT** told the committee he wanted some accountability information presented at the next session concerning how many licenses were given and how much many were provided access through the provisions. He approved of the idea

of access through damage control hunts. **REP. JENT** said some concerns from sportsmen could be alleviated by accountability reporting.

**SEN. COLE** asked **Jeff Heffernan, Director of Game, Fish and Parks**, if they agreed with reporting back information at the next legislative session. **Mr. Heffernan** responded, yes, they would want to keep track of the information.

**SEN. DEBBIE SHEA** asked **REP. JENT** what would be included in the accountability information. **REP. JENT** replied they wanted the number of hunting days used and the number of licenses issued by region to be included.

**SEN. COLE** asked **Doug Sternberg, legislative services**, to explain amendment **SB043707.ads EXHIBIT(ccs80sb0437a01)**. **Mr. Sternberg** explained the amendment would reinsert Section 2 with the following changes in language: (1)"for wildlife management purposes", (2)"privately owned land", (3)"or current" and (4)"purposes". He added this amendment also included a termination date.

**Motion:** **SEN. COLE** moved that **SB043707.ADS with the inclusion of the language from REP. JENT BE ADOPTED**.

**Discussion:**

**REP. KEITH BALES** asked **Doug Sternberg** what IRS form was referred to in the bill that would include the information from the current or previous year. **Doug Sternberg** explained it was possible for a person to request a complimentary license after April 15 of the year. License years begin March 1. **REP. BALES** stated it should be the previous year or most recent year.

**SEN. SHEA** asked **SEN. COLE** why the bill stated a \$5,000 gross income requirement. **SEN. COLE** answered they had decided on \$5,000 so the amount would be large enough to ensure the possibility of large ranch owners to open up their land which would be part of the total management purpose.

**Jeff Heffernan** clarified for the committee he wanted **REP. JENT's** reporting language to be included in Section 2 and in Section 1 also.

**Vote:** Motion that **AMENDMENT SB043707.ADS BE ADOPTED**.  
**EXHIBIT(ccs80sb0437a02)** Motion carried unanimously.

**Motion/Vote:** SEN. COLE moved that **SB 437 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**  
**Motion carried unanimously.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 1:35 A.M.

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SEN. PETE EKEGREN, Chairman

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Lynette Brown, Secretary

PE/JB/

**EXHIBIT** (ccs80sb0437aad)